

# NAVY OFFICER NURSE CORPS









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## The Navy Nurse Corps

You've invested your talents and energies in the nursing profession because you're dedicated and committed to the delivery of the highest quality of care to all patients. Your genuine concern and caring for the well-being of patients and their families is the hallmark of your profession. You derive a great sense of personal satisfaction from helping others.

If you're ready to continue your professional development in an exciting and new environment you'll discover some of the finest personal, professional and financial rewards in nursing today are in the Navy Nurse Corps. And as a Navy nurse you'll also be a Navy officer.

The Navy relies on its more than 60,000 officers to be its leaders and managers. These

professional men and women are stationed throughout the world. They work on land, aboard ships and submarines at sea and on naval aircraft.

The Navy's mission is to maintain the freedom of the seas and protect our interests and those of our allies around the world. Navy nurses share in the support of this mission by helping ensure the health and welfare of Navy people and their families throughout the world.

If you're a registered nurse or a student nurse, you should explore the advantages offered by a nursing career in the Navy. As a Navy nurse you'll belong to an outstanding health care organization dedicated to the highest standards of nursing and patient care delivery.

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## Why Choose the Navy Nurse Corps?

As a Navy nurse, you're assured professional consideration and respect from physicians, other nurses and a wide variety of health-care specialists.

You're offered every chance for career development, advancement and achievement through continued nursing education and specialty training. Opportunities exist for advanced education while you continue to earn full salary and retain benefits, including seniority and promotion progression.

You'll work with state-of-the-art equipment to ensure your place today in tomorrow's medical world of high technology.

Because the Navy entrusts young officers with real responsibility from the start, you'll gain broader nursing experience more rapidly than normally is possible in civilian hospitals. You're prepared to move into advanced clinical, educational and managerial positions much earlier in your career.

Assignments in the Navy Nurse Corps span the range of professional nursing practice. These include clinical areas such as medical, surgical and maternal-child nursing.

You may specialize in perioperative nursing, anesthesia, critical-care nursing, nursing education and nursing service administration. The expanded ambulatory care areas such as family practice, pediatrics, obstetrics and gynecology are also available.

Wherever you go in the Navy, you'll help provide the quality health care that Navy people depend on, and you'll work in medical centers and hospitals in prime locations in the United States or overseas.

As a Navy officer, you'll receive allowances and benefits that assure you of personal freedom and security.



*Cover. A Navy Nurse Corps officer comforts and reassures a patient in the modern Navy medical center in Bethesda, Md., located near the nation's capital.*

*Opposite. It's easy to picture yourself in the summer white uniform of a Navy Nurse Corps officer.*

*Above. These Navy Nurses monitor patients in the Intensive Care Unit nursing station of a modern Navy hospital.*

## Financial and Educational Incentives

The Navy offers several financial incentives for those who qualify to be Navy nurses.

### **Nurse Accession Bonus Program**

- provides an accession bonus to those who qualify
- paid in addition to other pay and allowances
- service obligation required

### **Nurse Candidate Program**

- provides monthly stipend, up to 24 months, for each month enrolled as a full-time student
- provides an accession bonus
- service obligation required (upon graduation)

### **Certified Registered Nurses Anesthetists (CRNA) Incentive**

- provides annual bonus for each year of obligated service
- paid *in addition* to any accession bonus
- paid *in addition* to other pay and allowances

### **Baccalaureate Degree Completion Program (BDGP)**

- receive military pay, allowances and active duty benefits while attending school full time
- be commissioned as a Navy nurse by age 35
- active duty obligation required, upon commissioning

### **Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps (NROTC)**

- pays for books and two years of tuition
- provides Navy uniforms
- pays monthly stipend while an NROTC student
- obligated service required (upon graduation)

### **Full-Time Out Service Training (FTOST)**

- graduate degree preparation for specialty programs
- provides full pay and allowances
- does not pay school expenses
- obligated service varies

### **Armed Forces Health Professional Scholarship Program (AFHPSP)**

- leads to a master's degree in nursing anesthesia
- pays for tuition and books
- pays a monthly stipend for 10 months
- must commission as a Navy nurse by age 35
- obligated service required (upon graduation)

### **Other Nursing Programs**

The Navy also offers the Technical Nurse Warrant Officer program for graduates with an associate degree in nursing.

Qualified candidates are appointed as Warrant Officers in the Navy and provide direct patient care in naval hospitals. They are a community separate from the Navy Nurse Corps. To qualify, candidates must:

- be licensed as a nurse.
- have an associate degree in nursing.
- be employed as a nurse within the past year.
- obligate for the required service.



*This Navy Nurse is a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist.*



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## Application Process

To apply for the Navy Nurse Corps, visit a Navy medical programs officer in your area. He or she will provide application forms and assist you in completing them. You can find the address and phone number of the Navy recruiting office nearest you in the white pages of your area phone book under "United States Government, Recruiting." In larger metropolitan areas it is in the special blue pages government section.

For making application you must have:

- proof of current state licensure as a registered nurse.
- certified photostat of birth certificate.
- *certified* transcripts of grades from high school (diploma nurses only), nursing school and any other college or advanced school attended. (Transcripts must be forwarded directly to the Navy recruiting office from your school.)

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## Nurse Corps Qualifications

If you're a registered nurse in good standing and actively engaged in the practice of nursing or a senior nursing student in an approved program within six months of graduation, you may be eligible to apply for a direct appointment into the Nurse Corps. Depending on your nursing educational preparation and experience, your initial appointment may be as an ensign, lieutenant junior grade or lieutenant.

Other qualifications for direct appointment are:

- be at least 20 and less than 40 years of age. Prior active commissioned service may be subtracted from an applicant's age to qualify a previously commissioned applicant who is more than 40 years of age.
- be a United States citizen.
- be a graduate of an accredited bachelor's or master's degree nursing program.
- be a graduate of an accredited associate degree nursing program, but also possess a bachelor's degree in one of these related fields: chemistry, biology, physiology, psychology, sociology, zoology or health sciences. Applicant must also

have been employed as a nurse within one year prior to appointment in the Nurse Corps.

- be a graduate of a diploma nursing education program of at least 108 academic weeks (excluding vacations).

*Accreditation.* Nursing school accreditation is required by an appropriate agency, preferably by the National League for Nursing.

*Licensing.* Possess a current nursing license in at least one state or commonwealth of the United States or the District of Columbia, based on a licensing examination provided by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing and administered by one of its member boards of nursing.

**Marital Status:** The Navy offers equal opportunity to men and women regardless of marital status.

**Commitment:** If you're appointed as a Nurse Corps officer, your initial commitment is to serve three years on active duty. Your total military commitment is eight years of combined active duty and inactive duty with the Naval Reserve.

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## Officer Indoctrination School

You'll make the adjustment from civilian to Navy life at the Officer Indoctrination School (OIS) in Newport, R.I. The six-week orientation course prepares you for your duties and responsibilities as a Navy officer. You'll become acquainted with the customs and traditions of the naval service and how the Navy operates.

Instruction at OIS includes subjects such as leadership and management, naval history, sea power, organizational structure, personnel policies and military law. Inspections, military drills and physical fitness activities are part of the curriculum.



## Selecting Your Initial Assignment

You'll work with a Navy medical programs recruiter to determine your first hospital assignment. The Navy's needs are essential in this decision, but your preferences and specific qualifications receive every consideration. You'll know where your first duty station is before you join.

You may request assignment to Officer Indoctrination School with a friend, under the "buddy plan." You can then move on to your first assignment together.

Your first assignment probably will be at a naval hospital in or near a metropolitan area. The location may be:

California  
\*Camp Pendleton  
\*\*Lemoore  
\*Long Beach  
\*Oakland  
\*San Diego  
\*\*Twentynine Palms

Connecticut  
\*New London

Florida  
\*Jacksonville  
\*Orlando  
\*Pensacola

Illinois  
\*Great Lakes

Maryland  
\*Bethesda  
\*\*Patuxent River

North Carolina  
\*Camp Lejeune  
\*\*Cherry Point

Pennsylvania  
\*Philadelphia

Rhode Island  
\*Newport

South Carolina  
\*\*Beaufort  
\*Charleston

Tennessee  
\*Millington

Texas  
\*\*Corpus Christi

Virginia  
\*Portsmouth

Washington  
\*Bremerton  
\*\*Whidbey Island

\*These hospitals are recommended for the less experienced, recent nurse graduate.

\*\*These hospitals are available for nurses with two or more years' professional experience.





## Major Naval Hospitals in the Continental United States



Opposite. Navy Nurse Corps officers serve in exciting, worldwide assignments like this Navy hospital in San Diego. It's one of the largest, best-equipped medical facilities in the world.



## Orientation

The Navy nurse is a competent, skilled and confident professional. But the Navy knows these are qualities which are developed with experience.

Your first Navy hospital assignment will include an orientation and preceptorship program. Following initial classroom orientation to the hospital, you'll work with an experienced Nurse Corps officer who'll guide you through patient care management, interdepartmental relationships and procedural skills.

Your background, experience and ability to assume responsibility will determine the length of

your individual orientation program. When you and the nurse in charge of your orientation feel you're ready, you'll assume your professional nursing duties.

As a staff nurse, your responsibilities will include:

- total patient care.
- beginning ward management and supervision.
- supervision and instruction of support personnel.



*New Navy Nurses work with more experienced nurses like the one seated above.*

*All Navy Nurse Corps officers attend orientation classes like this one, right, with senior Navy nurses before beginning direct patient care in new assignments.*





## Clinical Areas of Assignment

As a Navy nurse, you'll be assigned to diverse clinical settings. Your professional experience and interests will be considered at each hospital or medical facility to which you're assigned. The Navy Nurse Corps encourages development of clinical expertise in a variety of areas including:

ambulatory care  
critical care units  
emergency room  
general medicine  
general surgery  
neurosurgery  
obstetrics & gynecology

oncology  
perioperative nursing  
orthopaedics  
pediatrics  
psychiatry  
recovery room  
specialty surgery



*As a Navy Nurse Corps officer, you'll have the opportunity to choose from a variety of clinical assignments including, clockwise from left, obstetrics and gynecology, urology and operating room.*



## Overseas Assignments

Any nurse can travel. But it's the Navy nurse who can call such places as Italy, Spain, Bermuda, Australia or Japan "home."

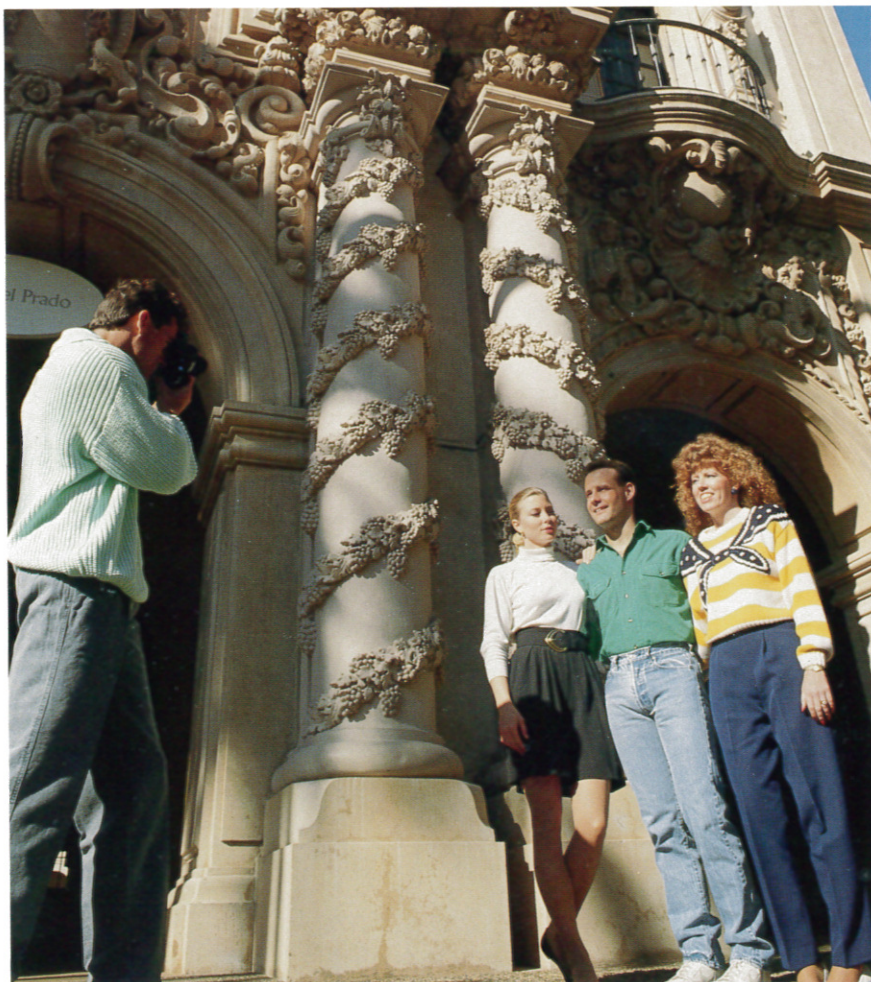
As a Navy nurse, you might live in Naples—not as a tourist, but as a full-time resident of this fascinating city. You'll gain insight into the people and culture around you as you make friends. The neighborhood shops, art treasures and breathtaking scenery become part of your daily life.

To become eligible for overseas assignment, you must have completed at least one tour of duty in the United States. Several factors are considered for reassignment overseas: your professional performance, your preference and sufficient obligated service remaining to complete a full tour overseas.

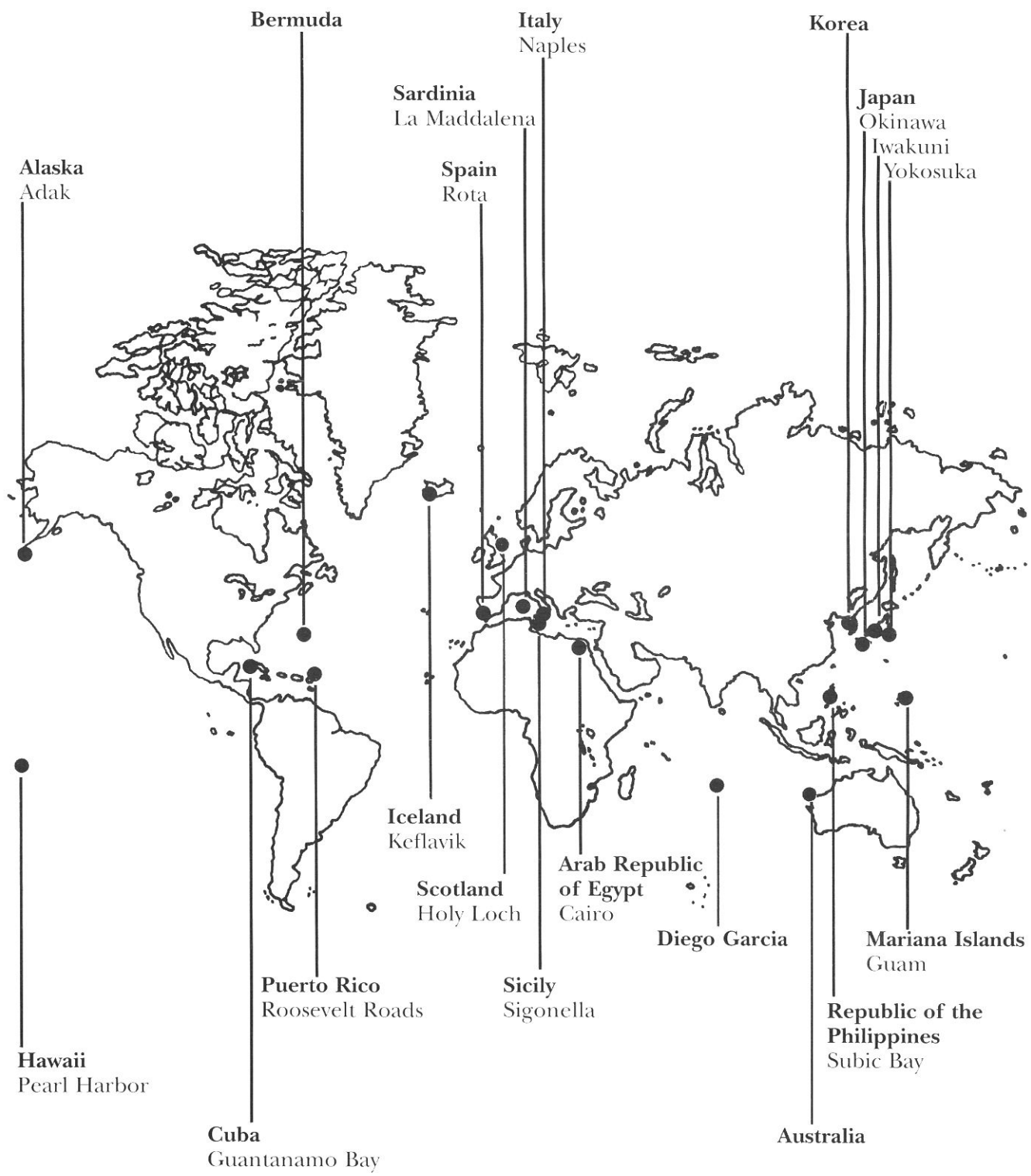
Navy nurses may be assigned to these overseas locations:

Adak, Alaska  
Australia  
Bermuda  
Cairo, Arab Republic of Egypt  
Diego Garcia  
Guam, Mariana Islands  
Guantanamo Bay, Cuba  
Holy Loch, Scotland  
Iwakuni, Japan  
Keflavik, Iceland  
Korea  
La Maddalena, Sardinia  
Naples, Italy  
Okinawa, Japan  
Pearl Harbor, Hawaii  
Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico  
Rota, Spain  
Sigonella, Sicily  
Subic Bay, Republic of the Philippines  
Yokosuka, Japan

*Navy Nurses enjoy free time off in exciting spots around the world. These two couples are sightseeing in Spain.*



Naval Medical Facilities Overseas





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## Continuing Education

Navy nurses may take advantage of opportunities for professional growth and achievement throughout their careers.

A wide selection of continuing education programs helps you improve your capabilities and assists you in meeting requirements for relicensure. You can keep up with the latest advances in clinical nursing practice as well as management and education, through in-service programs at your facility.

You're encouraged to attend short courses, seminars and workshops offered by nursing schools and universities, often located near naval hospitals. Tuition assistance can usually be obtained through the Navy. You may also apply for participation in a six-week operating room nurse indoctrination course with subsequent operating room assignment.

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## Advanced Education

Opportunities for advanced education leading to higher degrees are available on a competitive basis. Your length of service, qualifications and the needs of the Navy contribute to the success of your application. If selected, you will attend an accredited civilian college or university on a full-time basis to earn a higher degree in nursing.

You may also apply for participation in an educational program leading to certification in nurse anesthesia.

For each of the programs mentioned in these education sections, your tuition and incidental fees will be paid by the Navy, and your Navy salary and benefits will continue. After completing each of the programs, you'll be obligated for additional active duty service.

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## Professional Benefits

Promotion in the Navy is based on an objective evaluation of your merit, length of service and professional competence. Your demonstrated nursing ability and time in service determine when you'll assume greater responsibility and leadership, and receive the increased salary and rank that goes with it.

And in the Navy, you don't lose seniority or tenure when you transfer to another hospital or facility. Other professional benefits include:

- early responsibility and decision-making authority.
- wide variety of areas for clinical assignment.
- opportunity for advanced education with full pay and allowances.
- opportunity for career advancement.



*This Navy Nurse Corps officer practices one of the greatest benefits of Navy nursing: direct patient care.*

## Your Life in the Navy

As a Navy nurse, you'll have the freedom to define your own lifestyle.

Navy Nurse Corps officers meet and work with a diverse group of professionals from all over the world. You'll notice the unique camaraderie that develops among your fellow Navy Nurse Corps officers.

You'll also serve with naval officers whose specialties include aviation, intelligence, navigation and engineering, along with ships' commanders.

Many Navy hospitals are located in or near major metropolitan areas. All the advantages of the city are at your disposal. But the tranquility of the countryside, the lure of the trail or the glint of a sail across the water won't be far away either.

You can choose your own style of living quarters. At many locations, the Navy provides some on-base housing conveniently near your duty station. Or, Navy housing referral offices at each base can assist you in locating off-base housing to meet your needs. The choice is yours. If you're assigned to a location where living

quarters are not provided by the Navy, or you've chosen to live off the base, you'll receive a housing allowance.

Most Navy bases offer a variety of sports and recreation activities at little or no cost. Tennis, swimming, bowling, sailing clubs and racquetball are just a few of the many activities usually available. Craft and hobby shops, an officers' club for dining and entertainment, a movie theater and library are on practically every Navy base. You'll find many forms of relaxation to suit your interests and moods.

As a Navy nurse, you'll wear a distinctive uniform that reflects your professional leadership status as a Navy officer. You'll be given an initial uniform allowance. From then on, you'll pay for your uniforms. Uniforms are worn during duty hours and at other times specified by your commanding officer.

You'll have the security of a good-paying, dependable and gratifying job, but you'll also have the freedom to define your lifestyle for yourself.



*Some Navy Nurses serve not only at shore hospitals, but also experience the challenges of serving on ships at sea.*



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## Personal Benefits

The personal rewards of being a Navy Nurse Corps officer are also inviting. Consider these:

- medical and dental care—also available to your family on a space-available basis
- low-cost life insurance
- tax-free allowances for housing and meals
- attractive starting salary that increases through the years
- career and family security
- economical shopping at military grocery stores (commissaries) and military department stores (exchanges)

- 30 days of paid vacation earned each year
- opportunity for world travel
- moving expenses when changing duty stations
- officers' clubs and other recreation facilities
- comprehensive retirement program after 20 years

The Navy also provides legal assistance at most duty stations, and Navy chaplains are available.

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## For More Information

To find out more about the Navy Nurse Corps or for application forms, talk to the medical programs officer at your nearest Navy recruiting district. Or, for recruiting information only, call

the Navy's toll-free national number, **1-800-327-NAVY**, and ask for a referral to the medical programs officer nearest you. Information in this booklet is subject to change.

In Puerto Rico, call toll-free 1-800-327-6289.



*Assigned to the medical clinic of a naval air station, this Navy Nurse provides health care to naval aviators and support crews.*

*Right. This Navy Nurse Corps officer, right, confers with another member of the Navy's medical team.*

*Opposite. Leisure time off provides balance to the exciting challenges of Navy nursing for these four Navy Nurse Corps officers stationed in Europe.*

*Back Cover. Navy Nurse Corps officers like these in their summer white uniforms enjoy professional interaction with a physician as part of the Navy's health-care delivery team.*











**NAVY**  
**YOU AND THE NAVY.**  
**FULL SPEED AHEAD.**